



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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Governor

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BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

Environmental Justice Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

May 4 , 2017 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
7th Floor Large Conference Room
401 East State Street, Trenton, NJ 08625

Call to Order

10:13 am

Council Chair, Zachary Lewis, opened the meeting. Council adopted agenda. There were 8 members present and 2 on the phone. See sign-in sheet attached.

Changes to Council Membership

Ndidi Amutah-Onukagha delivered her resignation from the council. The resignation is due to a move out of New Jersey. This opens one vacancy on the council.

Two new members were introduced: Estrella Sainburg (Green Faith – Community Organizer) and Monique Griffith (Township of Irvington - Health Department).

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Meeting Minutes from the March 2, 2017 meeting were reviewed. Joann Held moved that the minutes be approved, and Kim Gaddy seconded the Motion. All present approved the motion.

Working Groups

Water Working Group

Chair Andy Kricun, Vice-Chair Kim Gaddy (Riche Outlaw presented the report in Kricun's absence)

The Workgroup has 4 Focus Areas

- 1.Safe Drinking Water
 - Developing an informational package pertaining to Safe Drinking Water and Lead in Water to be distributed to EJ communities.
- 2.Flooding

- Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO)
- Flooding due to rivers and other water bodies
- Storm water Emergency Response
- 3.Funding: How is it prioritized?
- 4.Sewer Utility Assistance Legislation (Long Range Project)

This working group will meet on May 4 @ 12:30 PM

Air Working Group

Chair – Kim Gaddy, Vice Chair – Zenobia Fields (Kim Gaddy Presented Report)

The Workgroup has 2 Focus Areas.

- 1.Develop a user-friendly document to distribute to communities, where there are potential air pollution problems
- 2.Port Initiative
 - Identify high traffic corridors
 - Identify truck congestion and Idling areas
 - Look at ways the Volkswagen Settlement Money might be used to address these areas
 - Reduce impact on Residential Areas with Truck Route Enforcement & Signage

This working group will meet on: May 16 & May 30

Land Working Group

Co-Chairs –Olivia Glenn and Lloyd Abdul Raheem (Olivia Glenn Presented Report).

This workgroup has identified 3 focus areas. Work has begun on the first (EAB)

- 1.Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Initiative: This is mostly a North & Central NJ problem.
 - Looking at 10 municipalities in the state
 - 7 of the 10, first and foremost, need Urban Community Forestry Programs to receive assist on the EAB issue
 - They are: East Orange, Hillside, Lakewood, Orange, Passaic, Patterson, Trenton
- 2.Illegal Dumping
- 3.Urban Agricultural Opportunities

Environmental Education and Communication:

This workgroup has identified 2 projects:

- 1.Develop Community Contacts Database
2. List of 10 Things an Environmental Activist Should Do

Citizen's Page could be a platform to build on

Consider use of Social Media

Olivia Glenn volunteered to be Interim Chair and asked staff to schedule a workgroup call.

Election of Officers

- Kelly Francis nominated Kim Gaddy as Vice Chair, and Molly Greenburg seconded the motion. All present voted Yes.
- Kim nominated Joann Held as Secretary, and Molly seconded the motion. All present voted Yes.

Adoption of By-laws

Members agreed to move forward with the By-Laws as they currently exist, and agreed to consider amendments at the next full EJAC meeting.

New Business

- Vacancy: Council members are encouraged to recommend candidates to fill Ndidi Amutah-Onukagha's position. Ideally the candidate would be from a faith-based group, a community group, or a small business. The individual could fill a Northern or an At-Large position. Forward recommendations to Riche Outlaw for review by the EJAC Executive Committee.
- EPHT Update: Barbara Goun announced that Age-Adjusted Death Rates are now available for 22 Municipalities in the EPHT database. She offered to add all members of the Council to EPHT List Serv administered by the Department of Health.

Announcements

- Invitations to Commissioner Martin: If anyone would like to invite the Commissioner to an event this year they should act quickly. Send requests through Riche Outlaw or Joe Donald.
- Climate Conference on May 20 in Newark at Rutgers: Sponsored by Climate Reality Project.

Next EJAC Meeting: September 7, 2017, 10am – 12pm, 401 East State Street, Trenton, NJ in the 7th Floor Large Conference Room.

Adjournment

12:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Joann Held, Council Secretary